

EXCHANGE:  
Closing Quotations:—  
T.T. London 84.7-84.8  
On Demand 84.7-84.8

# The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1861)

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March 18, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 62 2 p.m. 68  
Humidity 95 75

March 18, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 60 2 p.m. 65  
Humidity 69 73

7894 日六初月二

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1918.

一拜禮 號八十月三英港香

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634 PER ANNUM.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

### RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE.

#### The Treaty Now Ratified.

London, March 17.  
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd says that the Peace Treaty was ratified at midnight on March 15, after an open vote.  
Harr Steinberg, the Commissary of Justice, announced that the Left Social Revolutionaries refused responsibility and reserved the right to hinder the fulfilment of the terms of the Treaty by all the means in their power.

### ITALIAN PEACE RUMOURS.

#### Authors and Disseminators to be Prosecuted.

London, March 17.  
Reuter's correspondent at Rome says the Ministry of the Interior has ordered an investigation into the origin of the rumours of an early peace, which are current in Italy, as well as the prosecution of the authors and disseminators.

### SPANISH UNREST.

#### Telegraph Under Military Control.

London, March 17.  
A Madrid message says a Decree places the telegraph offices under military control, while the dispatch of telegrams is temporarily suspended. The measure is the result of the resistance by employees to the Decree dissolving the Unions in Government offices. A similar step is threatened in regard to the Post Office, whose employees have protested against the order depriving them of immunity from summary dismissal.

### JAPANESE INTERVENTION IN RUSSIA.

#### The Danger of Inaction.

London, March 15.  
Continuing his speech in the House of Commons on the Russo-Japanese situation, Mr. Balfour said people had come to say that the disorder in Russia was intolerable, that any alternative giving a semblance of order would be better and that Germany was waiting for such an eventuality and would intervene and establish a new Government—possibly some form of autocracy which would be far worse than the present Revolutionary days because it would be an autocracy leaning upon a foreign Power for its existence. Russian liberty would then be gone and Russia would be a vassal of the Central Powers. He said that the only way to deal with this malady without external help. The question was, could any of the Allies go to Russia with the help and sympathy which were sorely needed? America, Britain, France and Japan all desired to render aid enabling Russia to surmount a great crisis in her destiny. Mr. Balfour most strongly repudiated the suggestion that Japan was motivated by selfish and dishonourable motives, and said any promise Japan gave as regards the integrity of Russia would be kept as loyally as all her promises had been kept. The sole object of the Allies was to see Russia strong, intact, secure and free, for only then will the Revolution bear all the fruits which its friends desire.

### THE WESTERN FRONT.

#### British Airmen Have a Busy Time.

London, March 17.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says:—There was reconnaissance, artillery work, photograph, bombing and a great deal of air fighting to the east of the lines on the whole front yesterday. Over twelve tons of bombs were dropped on rest billets, ammunition depots and aerodromes, while a successful raid was carried out on important railway sidings at Hiron, hits being obtained on the railway. We brought down twelve machines and drove down seven others out of control. None of ours is missing. Our night fliers continued their activity until the morning, dropping over eight and a half tons on rest billets. All returned.

#### Mutual Raiding.

London, March 17.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We carried out successful raids in the neighbourhood of Epehy and Gavrelle. We repulsed a raid to the north of Lens. There is hostile artillery firing to the south of the Bapaume Cambrai road, in the Scarpe Valley and to the east of Polygon Wood, also against our rear defences to the south of Lens, between the La Bassée canal and the Lys. It is most active to the south-west of Cambrai and along the whole front from the La Bassée canal to the Menin road.

### FINNISH BUTTER FOR GERMANY.

London, March 17.  
Reuter's correspondent at Stockholm states that the Finnish Food Committee has rationed butter with a view to exporting the surplus to Germany in exchange for oats.

### AMERICA'S SUPPLIES OF WHEAT AND FLOUR.

London, March 17.  
According to a message from Washington, the Department of Agriculture estimates that the wheat holdings at mills and elevators are 68,972,000 bushels, a decrease of 20,000,000 bushels compared with last year.  
The Food Administration declares that the flour stocks are only thirty per cent. of the normal quantity needed till July 1, but that it intends to carry out the programme of supplying 90,000,000 bushels of grain to the Allies between January 1 and July 1, which is regarded as America's most important duty.

### JAPAN AND CHINA.

London, March 18.  
According to Reuter's correspondent at Tokyo, replying to the Leader of the Opposition, the Premier stated that no relations existed between Japan and Chang Tiao-ling, the Military Governor of Mukden. The Premier said he was aware that Japan or any other of the Powers had protested against the conveyance of Chang Tiao-ling's troops over the Peking-Mukden Railway, in contravention of the Boxer Treaty, but he added that the dissemination and disputes between Northern and Southern China constituted serious concern for the interests of Japan, who, however, had not attempted to mediate. The report of the despatch of a small body of Entente troops to Siberia was without foundation.

## REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

### BRITISH RAID IN GERMANY.

#### Successful Attack on Military Objectives.

London, March 17.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Aeroplane to-day attacked military objectives in Germany, dropping fourteen heavy and ten light bombs on barracks, munition factories and the railway station at Zwickau.  
Barracks were seen on the barracks and all round the railway station. Our formation was attacked by enemy and anti-aircraft guns, but all returned.

### RUMANIA AND PEACE.

London, March 17.  
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a message from Bucharest says that Marghiloman (sic), interviewed, said the sooner Rumania concluded peace the better would be her position.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

### THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

#### Germans Still Advancing.

London, March 15.  
A German official message reports: We dispersed enemy bands in Ukraine. We are occupying Bezhitsk.

#### Dissension from the Caucasus.

Petrograd, March 15.  
In order to strengthen her strategic position Germany has demanded the establishment of a new line seven miles east of the present Russian positions on the Pskov front.  
The Caucasus Government has refused to recognise the Brest-Litovsk treaty providing for the cession to Turkey of the regions of Kars, Baum and Ardahan. A delegation has gone to Tiflis to negotiate a peace with Turkey.

#### Germans Aim at Domination.

Amsterdam, March 15.  
The Russo-Ukrainian peace negotiations are about to begin at Kiev.  
Besides demanding the withdrawal of the Russians from the Pskov region the Germans have insisted on the Russians helping to destroy bonds and in burning and pillaging. It is reported that the German commander in chief has been appointed commander at Odessa. There were anti-Jewish riots at Odessa before its occupation. The Germans announce that, after ratification of the peace treaty, German commissions with the right of veto will be appointed to the Russian ministries to control the fulfilment of the treaty.

#### Opposition to the Peace Treaty.

Petrograd, March 15.  
The Congress of Soviets at Moscow opened on the 14th inst. and included 733 Marxist and 223 Revolutionary Socialist delegates.  
Messages from Petrograd indicate that there is a strong undercurrent of opposition to the ratification of the peace treaty. The Social Revolutionaries of the Left and the Council of People's Commissioners have resolved to resign if the Moscow Congress ratifies it. The Commissary of Justice publicly counsels the rejection of the treaty and says that the Congress must form a necessary Government of revolutionary defence.

#### Position in the Alands.

Stockholm, March 15.  
It is officially stated that the Swedish detachment despatched to superintend the Russian evacuation of the Alands has begun to withdraw, but the withdrawal in nowise prejudices the Swedish position regarding political questions connected with the Alands.

## THE SITUATION IN SIBERIA.

### Japanese Casualties.

London, March 16.  
The "Daily Mail's" Tientsin correspondent states that the Japanese Embassy at Peking has been informed that three Japanese have been killed and seven wounded in defending property against Bolsheviks at Blagovestchensk recently. Chinese troops are busily entrenching on the Siberian-Manchurian frontier. The "Times" Tokyo correspondent says: In the absence of any official pronouncement here the reports from America and from England that Japanese intervention in Siberia has been virtually decided are mystifying and absolutely in conflict with local news. The minority press and public advocate an expedition but the powerful commercial elements which are wholly opposed to intervention are now generally supported and exchanges have stiffened in consequence of the belief in non-intervention.

#### Exchange of Views Incomplete.

Tokio, March 16.  
In the House of Representatives the Premier stated that the exchange of views between the Entente Governments concerning the dispatch of troops to Siberia had not yet reached finality.

A newspaper reports that Maximalists have murdered 150 Japanese at Blagovestchensk.

### GERMANY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

Amsterdam, March 15.  
Herr Solf, speaking at Cologne, emphasised that any peace to be lasting must satisfy Germany's colonial necessities. He favoured a re-distribution of colonial possessions in order to give Germany a far larger share than before the war "when her colonies were small and scattered."

### ALLIED AIR RAIDS ON GERMANY.

Amsterdam, March 15.  
A Berlin telegram states that there were twenty-three Allied air-raids on Germany in February, including thirteen on industrial districts in Lorraine, Luxembourg and Saar Moselle, three on Treves and one each on Saarbrücken, Mannheim and Pirmasens. The damage to houses was not inconsiderable. Twelve were killed and 27 injured. An enemy biplane was captured.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

### DUTCH SHIPPING QUESTION.

#### Austro-German Anger.

London, March 15.  
The Austro-German press are most indignant at the Allies taking over the Dutch shipping.  
The "Neue Freie Presse" characterises it as an unprecedented act of violence against a neutral.  
The German press demands drastic reprisals and threatens to cease the supply to Holland of coal and other necessities.

Lord Robert Cecil in an interview lays stress on the fact that the contemplated taking over of Dutch ships is based on the Allies' sole desire to obviate the laying up of shipping which may be useful for the world at large. He points out that these ships are lying indefinitely in our harbours and receiving various consequent facilities. All nations ought to combine to oppose the German attempt to starve not only Germany's enemies but the world. The total Dutch tonnage in Allied ports approximate, a million tons of which seventy per cent is in the United States and fifteen per cent in each of the British and other Allied ports.

#### A Report from Singapore.

The Hague, March 13.  
The Dutch Consul General at Singapore reports that clearance has been refused various ships, including those of the Royal Packet Company. The Foreign Minister, through the Dutch Minister in London, has asked the British Government for information thereon.

### THE WESTERN FRONT.

#### Numerous Reports of Activity.

London, March 15.  
A French communique reports: A fairly violent artillery duel prevails especially on the right of the Telle, in the regions of Bezonvaux and Yacherauville. We dispersed an enemy raid following a lively bombardment west of Merville, in Lorraine.

A wireless German official message says: A French attack on a wide front only got a foothold in trenches westward of the Thuy-Nauroy road.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: The Canadians raided south-eastward of Lens and brought back prisoners. A large party of the enemy who undertook last night's raid on Passchendaele suffered heavily from our artillery and a British bombardment. The enemy was driven back to the Menin railway during the past two days. An enemy raid on Mercem was stopped by our batteries. The enemy is using quantities of gas shells and we replied similarly. Serious bombing encounters occurred in the regions of Nieuport and Dixmude.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation states: We bombed a railroad near Lille and aerodromes north-eastward and eastwards of St. Quentin. One of the latter's hangars was set afire and two badly damaged. All our machines returned.

#### Raid by Welsh Troops.

London, March 16.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: Welsh troops in a successful raid in the neighbourhood of Armentieres prisoners fifteen and captured two machine guns. There has been hostile artillery firing south-eastward of Ypres, in the neighbourhood of the Menin road and southward of Houthulst forest.

We made a successful raid north-westward of La Vaucquiere. There has been hostile artillery firing south-west of Cambrai, in the neighbourhood of the Scarpe river, northward of Lens, on both sides of the La Bassée canal and in Mesines sector. Our artillery set on fire a large dump eastward of Queant.

A Paris communique says there has been lively artillery firing on the right of the Meuse.

### COLLISION IN IRISH CHANNEL.

London, March 15.  
The London and North-western steamer Rathmore collided with a warship in the Irish Channel. The Rathmore was badly damaged. Twenty-six people are missing and 20 are injured.

The London and North-Western Railway says there were no fatalities on the Rathmore. A telegram from Dublin says that possibly four persons perished. The Rathmore was carrying 600 soldiers and 38 civilians, including women and children, when she collided with a mine-sweeper in the darkness. The boats were lowered and one capized but the occupants were rescued. The soldiers and crew were most cool and slid down ropes into the destroyers. The Rathmore and mine-sweeper were towed in.

### MORE GERMAN BOASTING.

Amsterdam, March 16.  
Marshal Hindenburg and General Ludendorff, interviewed on the military situation, said that having burst the stranglehold they could now concentrate towards the west. "We can now think of attacking. If it comes it will be a hard task. Possibly the enemy on the Franco-British front has an abundance of reserve divisions and possesses a well consolidated network of railways, but it is moral strength that matters. We are entirely confident that the battle which is bursting will be successful for us. The centre-point is the good spirit of the German soldiers. We are convinced that this spirit is flourishing everywhere in the homeland."

### MUNITIONS EXPLOSION IN FRANCE.

Paris, March 15.  
Two big explosions, heard in Paris, occurred in the Courmoulin district. Sixteen dead have been counted and there are many injured.

Many Casualties.  
Paris, March 16.  
There were thirty dead and many injured in an explosion at the munitions depot at St. Denis (which was built to replace the Dair Confinement depot blown up in 1915). Few were working at the time of the explosion which was most violent and felt for a great distance. A pall of smoke hung over north Paris.

## WEATHER FORECAST.

RAIN.  
Breeze light to moderate.  
Temperature 60 to 65.

## TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service by The "Telegraph.")

### THE SILVER MARKET.

London, March 17.  
The silver market is steady with small supplies.  
London, March 18.  
The silver market is steady.

### RETURN OF SIR G. BUCHANAN.

#### Sincere Friendship for Russia.

On account of a somewhat serious breakdown in health, the British Ambassador at Petrograd, Sir George Buchanan, has been granted leave of absence to return home.

Sir George Buchanan was appointed Ambassador to Petrograd (then St. Petersburg) on November 23, 1910. He has thus held the post for more than seven years. The last four years he has spent uninterruptedly in Russia, and has neither asked for nor received leave of absence since the war began. Though by no means strong physically, he has cheerfully sacrificed himself to his extremely arduous duty, and has become, by his firmness of character and transparent honesty of purpose, the foremost figure in the British diplomatic service.

Unlike many diplomats, who regard it as their chief object to be persons gratified with the Sovereign or Heads of States to in view was his conviction that the true welfare of Russia and the maintenance of close and friendly understanding and co-operation between Russia, Great Britain, and their Allies. Thus, when it became clear that the reactionary policy pursued by the late Emperor and his advisers was leading the country towards an internal crisis, the British Ambassador sought repeatedly to convince the Tsar of the expediency of sincere constitutional and democratic reform. He met with more than one rebuff, but nevertheless persevered in the hope of avoiding the revolutionary upheaval which the attitude of the Court eventually rendered inevitable.

Upon the abdication of the Tsar he played the part of a counsellor and friend to the Provisional Government, and sought by every means in his power to exercise a steady influence upon events. He gradually became the outstanding representative of the Western Allies in Russia and worked for the Alliance and for Russia with unremitting zeal. If German intrigue, and visionary ingenuities on the part of mad revolutionary leaders, combined to frustrate his efforts, his record, nevertheless remains as a monument of persistent good faith and good will such as few diplomats have left behind them. A more difficult (not to say dangerous) and delicate task has rarely, if ever, fallen to a British Ambassador; and rarely has a British diplomatist addressed himself to his task with greater straightforwardness, openness of mind, and freedom from pedantic preconceptions.

### DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.  
St. John's Cathedral, B. opening of organ, 9.15 a.m.  
Victoria Theatre, 9.15 p.m.  
Bijou Theatre, 9.15 p.m.  
New Hongkong Cinema, 9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.  
City Hall, Concert by Professor Paganini, 9.15 p.m.  
Victoria Theatre, 9.15 p.m.  
Bijou Theatre, 9.15 p.m.  
New Hongkong Cinema, 9.15 p.m.







## GENERAL NEWS.

**Pridges and Munition Girls.**  
Princess Victoria recently attended an entertainment to 200 wounded soldiers organised by the munition girls living at the Joan of Arc Hotel, Plumstead, and unveiled an heraldic figure which has been placed in the hall. A small replica was subsequently presented to her.

**Saved by Seagulls.**  
A pilot who landed at a South-east Coast port recently said that while in the Channel he noticed some seagulls sitting upon a floating object. Upon closer investigation he saw it was a mine with five prongs. On each prong was perched a seagull. He just had time to alter the ship's course slightly, and thus averted disaster.

**High Profits of Brewers.**  
At the Quarter Session for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight recently the Court considered the submission of the Licensed Victuallers' Defence League of England and Wales that compensation charges on the trade should be entirely suspended on the ground of the restrictions placed upon traders. The Duke of Wellington moved that half the maximum levy (as last year) be imposed stating that, in spite of the fact of restrictions placed upon the sale of liquor, the brewing interest was doing well. This resolution was carried.

**Teachers' Service.**  
At the resumed annual Conference of Educational Associations at University College recently, Professor John Adams, addressing the Schools' Personal Service Association, said a large number of his friends in the teaching profession were now doing public service in Government offices and munition works. Without exception, they said how easy the work was compared with teaching. So far as fatigue was concerned, they would rather work ten hours a day in an office or in munition work than three hours in school.

**Mrs. Patrick Campbell's Loss.**  
Mrs. Patrick Campbell has received news of the death of her son, Acting Lieut. Commander Alan U. Campbell, who was killed in action on Dec. 30. He had been fighting for over two years with the Royal Naval Division, and was mentioned in dispatches for good work at the Dardanelles. He received the Croix de Guerre with palm, from the French, after the evacuation of Gallipoli. Since his arrival in France he had gained the Military Cross and a bar to it for work in the Battle of the Ancre. He was instrumental on one occasion in taking 400 prisoners.

**A Bogus Hero.**  
Geo. Wm. Owen, now undergoing 12 months' imprisonment for theft at Manchester, was at the Westminster Police Court recently sentenced to two months' hard labour for robbing the poor-box at the court, with other thefts, and also for forging military papers. It was stated the prisoner had described himself as the "Honourable George Irwin," and had been wearing the Military Cross and other decorations to which he was not entitled. He had also forged cheques which he had, it was alleged, stolen from the house of an officer whose guest he had been.

**Vienna Pork Riot.**  
The Arbeiter Zeitung reports the outbreak of serious food riots in Vienna on New Year's Day. The announcement that 40,000 pounds weight of Serbian pork would be sold in the great market at 3s. per lb. attracted immense crowds, estimated at fully 20,000 persons, hundreds of whom had waited in the streets all through the night in the bitter cold with the temperature below zero. In the early morning the crowd, becoming impatient, overpowered the police and forced an entry to the market, literally fighting their way to get at the meat. Many persons were seriously injured, and the available supplies were soon sold out. The majority of the people, however, were forced to go meatless away. Noisy demonstrations then took place in the streets, the crowd vehemently denouncing the municipal authorities and the Imperial Government. Owing to the lack of bread thousands of tailors and dressmakers in Vienna have been forced to close their shops. There are now 40,000 workers out of employment.

## NOTICES.

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SECOND PRIZE	\$56,250
THIRD PRIZE	\$37,500
100 PRIZES OF \$1,000 TO \$50	\$93,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>

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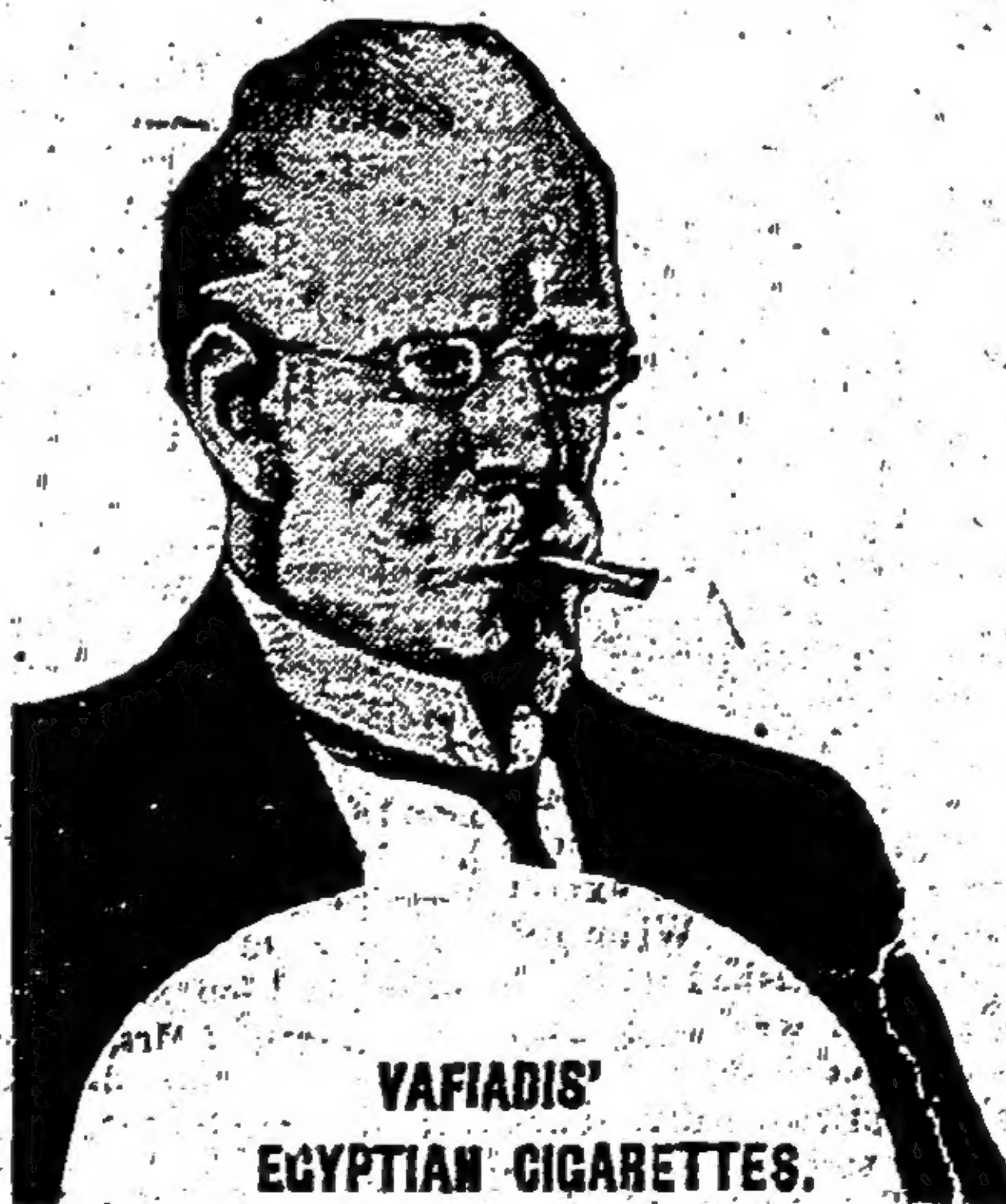
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Crown Prince	100	4.65
"	50	2.35
"	10	.50
Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
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Superfine	100	2.40
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Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY  
CLUB.PURCHASERS OF PARI-  
MUTUEL TICKETS on the  
5th Race, Second Day, for  
Cash Sweeps, Places and  
winners, also Cash Sweep tick-  
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can obtain a refund on pro-  
duction of their ticket at the  
Office of the Hongkong Jockey  
Club, on the Ground Floor of  
the HONGKONG CLUB  
ANNEXE, Chater Road, be-  
tween the hours of 3.30 P.M.  
and 5.30 P.M. on MONDAY,  
4th March, 1918, until 29th  
March (SATURDAYS and  
SUNDAYS excepted).HOLDERS OF UNPAID WIN-  
NING TICKETS (Cash Sweeps,  
Places and Winners) will also  
be paid at the same place and  
between the same hours as  
stated above on production of  
tickets.LOWE, EINGHAM  
& MATTHEWS.Accountants to the Hongkong  
Jockey Club.  
Hongkong, 28th February, 1918.

## NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN  
that the Firm of A. R.  
Marty, Rene Salls' Successor,  
has from the 12th February, 1918,  
sold to Messrs. P. A. Lapieque  
& Co., the s.s. "Hanoi" which  
insures the Postal Service be-  
tween Hongkong and Haiphong,  
and also the right to use the  
name of A. R. Marty, Compagnie  
de Navigation Tonkinoise.The business will hereafter be  
carried on by Messrs. P. A.  
Lapieque & Co., 4, Queen's  
Building, Telephone No. 950.  
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Maison, A. R. Marty,  
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Hongkong, 12th March, 1918.

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kill all flies, mosquitos and  
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POADOCK CO., LTD.NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN  
that the Ordinary Yearly  
Meeting of Shareholders will be  
held in the Office of the Comptroller  
in the 2nd Queen's Building, Hongkong,  
on MONDAY 25th March, 1918,  
at 12th noon, for consideration  
of the Directors' Report and  
Statement of Accounts for the  
year ending 31st December,  
1917.The SHARE REGISTER and  
TRANSFER BOOKS will be  
closed from the 18th to the 25th  
inst, both days inclusive.  
By Order of the Board of  
Directors: R. M. DYER,  
19th March 1918.





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Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union  
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

## BIRTH.

SCOTT.—On March 18th, to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Scott, a son.

## DEATH.

GIBSON.—On the 16th inst, Jeannie Mackay beloved wife of Dr. R. Maclean Gibson, of the London Missionary Society.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Dr. Gibson gratefully acknowledges the numerous expressions of sympathy and floral tributes received in his recent sad bereavement.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1918.

## THE ALLIES AND DUTCH SHIPPING.

Certain absurd rumours which have been circulated in the Colony during the past week or so as regards the relations between Britain and Holland have been laid at rest by the announcements which came to hand on Saturday of the right which the Allies intend to exercise by taking over, for the duration of the war, Dutch shipping lying in Allied ports. It is well-known that negotiations have been proceeding for some considerable time between the Allies and Holland aiming at an understanding whereby the Entente would be able to make use of Dutch shipping in exchange for food supplies, and that there appeared every prospect of the desired end being attained. Such a plan would be to the mutual advantage of both parties, but it is now revealed that German threats and actions have stood in the way of its being carried into effect. That being the case, the Allies have now deemed it expedient to resort to other methods leading to the same result. In this respect they are acting in accordance with international law and can quote precedents for the stand they take, while at the same time going no further than Holland herself proposed until Germany stood in the way of a voluntary agreement being reached.

If we look at the matter dispassionately, we shall see that the Allies are actuated by a spirit of characteristic fairness and that there is none of that attitude of dominance associated with the proposal such as we should expect from Germany if in a similar position. It is no question of seizing Dutch vessels unconditionally, but of utilising them for the period of the war to the mutual advantage of Holland and the Entente nations. The ships are to be insured, good freights are to be paid and steps will be taken to replace any which happen to be sunk in the danger zone, as soon as possible after the declaration of peace. A point to be borne in mind is that we are not presuming to do to Holland what has not been done to us, for it is appropriately recalled that in 1871 Germany destroyed a number of British vessels on the Seine and subsequently paid compensation therefor. The resolve of the Allies necessarily causes considerable dislocation of Dutch shipping activity, but a situation has been reached in which private interests must be subordinated to larger claims. And if the matter is looked at in that light we are sure that the benefits of the decision will be self-apparent. What must not be forgotten is that the exercise of this right is necessitated by Germany's methods of bullying terrorism. It is now proved that Germany has been using her submarines to prevent adjacent neutral nations from receiving food from the Allies, with a view to starving these nations into political and economic dependence on Germany, and that all manner of threats have been held out to Holland and Scandinavia in order to prevent the conclusion of agreements which they desire to enter into with the Allied nations. With the facts thus, the notion of the Entente automatically brings relief to an awkward situation; so far as the neutral nations are concerned, inasmuch as the Allies, and not the neutrals, must now bear the brunt of German resentment over the matter.

Another reason which may be quoted in justification for the Allied viewpoint is that the taking over of these vessels is necessitated owing to the extreme shortage of tonnage which has been caused through the enemy's ruthless submarine campaign, in which all the accepted laws of maritime warfare are studiously ignored. In this connection, neutral nations know to their cost that the Germans have not hesitated to sink, without warning, any prey that comes their way and that in these instances there is not the least intention of paying compensation. When we keep a point like that in mind and contrast the Allied proposal therewith, no question can arise as to who are the friends and who the enemies of neutral countries. All through the war, we have played the game by non-belligerence, and in taking this latest course necessitated by circumstances we are, in the conditions attaching to it, adhering to principles of justice and fair play.

## Tennis Suggestions.

The suggestion put forward by a correspondent in our issue of Friday, that, in connection with the coming tennis tournaments, a Hong Doubles Championship should be arranged, certainly has much to commend it. At the same time, it should be pointed out that one of the events which figures in the Hongkong Cricket Club tournament is practically on all fours therewith. We refer to the Professional Pairs Competition, which is played off on a scratch basis and is eligible to pairs participating in the same business calling. If any amendments were to be made—and we are afraid it is a little late in the day now, seeing that the entries have closed—we should like to see this particular event replaced by a Doubles Championship open to the Colony, irrespective of the players' business sphere, which latter, after all, brings in quite an outside factor. We are glad to see that the general tendency is to make the principal tennis events more comprehensive, for that is a step in the right direction. The inclusion of mixed doubles was a happy move, while the recent institution of a ladies' singles championship, on the initiative of the L.R.C., was equally gratifying. But isn't it time a ladies' Doubles Championship were established?

## Theatre Manners.

A correspondent wishes to air through our columns, in the hope that it will reach the eyes of those concerned, the unseemly behaviour of a little group of spectators at the Victoria Theatre on Friday night. He states that the offending persons comprised several who would no doubt like themselves to be regarded as gentlemen, as well as a member of the opposite sex, and that during the whole evening, by chattering, giggling and even adopting anything but a patriotic attitude towards pictures of our war heroes were screened, were a continual source of annoyance to practically everyone in the dress circle. This is the sort of thing of which we have felt compelled to complain before, but this particular instance appears to have been about as bad a case as has ever been brought to our notice. The theatre manners of some individuals in this Colony are about as crude and objectionable as they could well be, and we can only express the hope that, one of these evenings, people who offend in this respect will undergo the humiliating experience of being summarily requested to leave the building in which they happen to be. People of this type are as much of a nuisance to the management of picture-houses as they are to those who have the misfortune to be anywhere near them.

## The German Way.

Those who believed that the Germans were innocent of any intention to interfere in the affairs of the inhabitants of the Aland Islands when they landed a force there, will have to revise their views, for a telegram to hand on Saturday showed that the Hun intruders had ordered the people to surrender all weapons and have also abolished the right of meeting. That is a rather drastic way of "baiting in" to be sure, but it is only what one has learned to expect from the Germans. When the enemy force established itself on these islands it was announced that the sole intention was to set up a halting place in connection with the despatch of assistance to Finland. That was the German declaration. We know now what the German action has been. To those who have followed Germany's record in this war, the development will not come as a surprise, for it has been shown in abundant manner that the Huns are no respecters of the rights of others. They are thus carrying out their traditional policy. But what will the Scandinavian nations say about it, we wonder?

Ex-Lord Mayor's Will.  
Alderman Sir Henry Edmund Knight, senior member of the Aldermen's Body of the City of London, Lord Mayor in 1882 and 1883, left £88,720.

## DAY BY DAY.

WE TRAD UPON LIVES BROKEN  
LAW AND MURMUR AT OURSELVES  
INFLICTED PAIN.—WHI GIE.

To-morrow's Anniversary.  
To-morrow is the anniversary of the birth of David Livingstone (1813).

The Dollar.  
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3. C 11.

Stolen Clothes.  
A Chinese was charged before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, at the Police Court this morning, with the larceny of several pieces of clothing. The defendant said that he picked the clothes up in the street, but, after hearing the evidence, his Worship sentenced the man to fourteen days' hard labour.

Embezzlement Charge.  
The case in which Albert J. Edwards, the late accountant of the Government Civil Hospital, is charged with embezzling \$500, the money of the Government, was again before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Police Court this morning. His Worship fixed the case to come on again on Wednesday next at 2.15 p.m.

Hongkong Man Wounded.  
Friends of Second Lieut. H. J. White will regret to hear that the following telegram has been received locally from the War Office:—"Regret inform you 2nd. H. J. White, 3rd Devonshire Regiment, was wounded, March 12th. Details sent if received." Mr. White was formerly on the staff of the Hongkong Hotel, and was only recently gazetted.

Concealed Opium.  
There were two cases of opium possession before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, both the defendants being cooks on board a Canton steamer. In one case the man had 27½ taels and in the other 38 taels were found. The drug was concealed in the men's clothing. His Worship passed sentence of six months' and nine months' hard labour respectively.

A Clever Excuse.  
For returning from banishment, a Chinese was excused by Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, to nine months' hard labour and four hours' stock. The man, who was sent away for ten years in September last, stated that he came back because he had heard that his mother perished in the Racecourse disaster. He had only come to make enquiries.

Newspaper Seller Sentenced.  
A man who said he earned his living by selling papers for the South China Morning Post, was charged before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe this morning with picking a watch and chain from an old man's pocket in Des Voeux Road Central on Saturday. It was stated that the defendant stole the watch and chain and then passed it on to an accomplice before the police came up. Sentence of fourteen days' hard labour was passed.

Committed Five Burglaries.  
In the early hours of yesterday morning, a Chinese, who has successfully entered No. 66, Temple Street, Yau-mui, and stolen property valued at \$71, was disturbed, and endeavoured to make his escape by the back door. The householder was aroused and chase was given, the burglar being caught. When searched at the Police Station, a number of pawn tickets were found upon the man, establishing the fact that he had committed four other burglaries during the past two months. All the property has been recovered. Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced the man this morning to six months' hard labour and four hours' stock.

Death of Mrs. Gibson.  
It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death, from cerebro-spinal meningitis, of Mrs. Gibson, wife of Dr. Maclean Gibson, Superintendent and Secretary of the Allies Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals, which took place on Saturday. The deceased lady was extremely well-known in the Colony, in which she had resided for some twenty years, having been married here, and she will be greatly missed by a large circle of European and Chinese friends. She has left behind her a record of splendid work in the interests of charity. The funeral took place on Saturday evening and the large gathering present was testimony to the deceased lady's popularity. The deepest sympathy of the whole community is felt for Dr. Gibson in the very sad bereavement.

## ART OF BUILDING IN COUNTRIES SUBJECT TO EARTHQUAKES.

## The value of ferro concrete.

## (Concluded from Saturday)

In 1908 Monsieur G. Flament-Henri, engineer, in a paper read before the Society of Civil Engineers of France, indicated that the material required to resist earthquake shocks was Ferro Concrete. Other materials such as wood, masonry, or metal, only gave bad results, as much by their low resistance to seismic shocks as by their being easily destroyed by fire which usually follows a severe earthquake.

From the Report on the State of Buildings in Ferro Concrete after the disaster of Messina 1908, the following particulars gleaned on the spot by a French Engineer prove the perfect resistance of ferro concrete buildings, even those most disturbed.

1.—Covering of the Torrent Portogruaro remained intact notwithstanding the enormous quantity of material thrown over same.

2.—Floors of the Maison de Sante Mandarini contributed by their ties to the walls to preserve the house in very good condition and the patients did not leave the hospital.

3.—Reservoir of 4,000 tons remained in good order and continued to supply water to the town.

4.—Messina Museum walls caved in, the ferro concrete floors fell with same but remained in one piece. One remained perfectly intact supported only by three walls.

5.—Water Mill, built of ferro concrete, intact.

6.—Floors of the Railway Electric Light Station did not suffer notwithstanding the heavy load supported owing to the upper parts of the building being thrown on it, and that it was in the part of the city most shaken up. The remainder of the building was wrecked.

7.—The Medical School hospital was completely destroyed with the exception of the reinforced concrete, the staircase having resisted amid the debris.

8.—House adjoining the Church de la Madeleine—the floors reinforced concrete were intact, the Church in ruins.

9.—Waiting room in concrete remained intact, the building adjacent wrecked.

10.—Houses in reinforced concrete remained uninjured in a quarter where all other buildings were ruined, saving the lives of the occupants whilst their neighbours perished.

Following these statements, the Council of Engineers and Architects in Italy called an extraordinary meeting on the 1st January 1909 and nominated a commission under the president, Signor Luiggi, to study and decide on regulations for buildings to be constructed in regions subject to seismic disturbances. Their decisions appeared in No. 7 of the Annals of the Society, which concluded that reinforced concrete properly designed and well carried out should be adopted.

Approval of reinforced concrete buildings was expressed by the Geological Service of the U.S. after the San Francisco earthquake. Unfortunately for San Francisco there were very few of that type of building at the time of the disaster, but those existing resisted very well the shake and the fire resulting.

Concrete, principally the reinforced system, through its great resistance and tensile strength, has proved that it is the most satisfactory material. Its monolithic structure marvellously resists the shocks and being tied in one piece it offers the best security against fire.

It must be noted that the buildings above mentioned were not built with a view to resisting earthquakes.

This shows that without special precautions of any kind in construction such buildings by their nature resist the most violent shocks without deformation.

We may cite two typical examples of this extraordinary quality of reinforced concrete to resist the most violent shocks and differences of level. The town of Saint-Pierre (Martinique) almost destroyed by the volcanic eruption of the 8th May 1902, was visited by a cyclone on the 8th August, 1903, which almost wiped out the last vestiges of buildings which remained standing. Only one modest house, the walls of which were of concrete covered with a coating of reinforced concrete, built by officers of the support at the same time as the town, two kilometres from the volcano, remained standing. It was the only building in the town which was not destroyed.

Mount Pelée, resisted. This house sheltered during the cataclysm the observers who saw everything fall around them, notwithstanding that it was built under disadvantageous conditions of bad labour and quality of the material employed.

A second example will show the powers of resistance of a reinforced concrete building. In Tunis, on the 22nd April, 1906 a flour mill, central building almost square and two wings, one 170' x 35' and the other 80' x 40' were affected by a general depression of the ground in such a very unequal form as to show an inclination which would recall the tower of Pisa. On one side the buildings sank 5 feet deep, giving thereby an inclination of 16° feet with the perpendicular line without any damage to the flour-mill which was later on redressed in its former shape by the addition of another storey, the original ground floor being turned into an underground floor.

But there is another danger which we referred to above, viz., fire, for example the case of San Francisco where 95% of the damage resulted from that cause.

Against that danger also, we have the report of the geological service of the United States in favour of reinforced concrete.

We now give a few instances, very convincing because based on experimental facts, of the value of reinforced concrete.

On the 9th September 1898, at the Firemen's Congress in Belgium tests were made on a reinforced concrete building 18' x 12' consisting of a ground floor and a first and second floor.

First, the floor above the ground floor was loaded to 300 lbs. per square foot and underneath a pile of wood was placed and saturated with kerosene, and fire appeared. The fire remained burning for one hour after which it was extinguished by the fire service. After cooling down it was seen that the concrete was undamaged.

A second trial was made on the 28th September 1898 the same floor was loaded to 450 lbs. per square foot and the maximum bend was not over 1/16". The terrace was loaded 300 lbs. per square foot. Then two piles of fire wood were laid, one on the ground floor and one on the first floor which were lighted and burned for about two hours without any cracks becoming apparent. The heat was so great that a block of wood, 8" distant from a reinforced glass sheet which was closing the window took fire without any cracks becoming apparent in the reinforced glass sheet. The fire was put down and only the next day could the results be registered. No disorganization existed in the concrete, only in the plaster in direct contact with the fire (about four-fifths of an inch), but next morning no permanent deflection was apparent.

The pyrometers placed inside registered a temperature of 1200° centigrades.

Captain Welsch of the Fire Brigade concludes that the results obtained proved that a division wall of reinforced concrete of 3" thick would be an impenetrable screen to any fire.

Other trials took place on the 14th and 20th of August 1900 in the tower of the barracks of the firemen, Lamark Road, Paris, and such trials confirm the above experiences. The temperature went up to 1,600° degrees inside whereas outside the temperature was not materially increased.

Many other proofs of the excellent quality of Ferro Concrete have been given by accidental fires which would otherwise have been disastrous.

In Geneva an Electric plant was almost destroyed by fire and the fire stopped at the concrete floor of the first floor. The Station was rebuilt in concrete.

The Van Haegzeden Cotton Mill (Belgia) took fire and the plant was entirely destroyed but the frame work, in concrete, was entirely preserved and the mill was rebuilt without any alteration.

An especially remarkable example was the fire in Baltimore on the 25th February 1904 which destroyed 1,800 buildings in 30 hours. In the centre of the quarter affected were three buildings in reinforced concrete. The Hotel Junker, Fayette Street, which was dynamited to stop the progress of the fire, the building of the International Trust Company, Baltimore Street, in which the concrete floors resisted without damage the fall of the next building (Adam Express Co.) saving the walls which contained valuable papers and jewellery. Many other examples of the same kind might be cited.

It is thus seen that reinforced concrete is the only material which resists the most violent shocks and differences of level.

The town of Saint-Pierre (Martinique) almost destroyed by the volcanic eruption of the 8th May 1902, was visited by a cyclone on the 8th August, 1903, which almost wiped out the last vestiges of buildings which remained standing. Only one modest house, the walls of which were of concrete covered with a coating of reinforced concrete, built by officers of the support at the same time as the town, two kilometres from the volcano, remained standing. It was the only building in the town which was not destroyed.

## WAR COMFORTS.

## City Hall Work Party.

Mrs. Stubb writes us as follows:—During the last three weeks the City Hall Work Party packed the following:—119 shirts, 10 surgical shirts, 15 cotton shirts, 268 pairs of pyjamas, 182 bed jackets, 160 vests, 35 dressing-gowns, 1 quilt, 15 reversible bed-jackets, 48 daisy headed chiefs, 189 milk covers, 68 pairs of slippers, 37 abroads, 7 pairs of bed boots, 131 theatre squares, 12 face cloths, 4 pairs of socks, 13 small pillows, 25 large macquillo nets, 45 scrubbers, 6 pillow cases, 13 many-tailed bandages, 25 caps, 30 pairs of operation stockings. These were packed in five cases and sent to the Red Cross Depot in Bombay for distribution to Hospitals in India and Mesopotamia. The quilt in the above list is made from small squares of flannel left in cutting out garments; it is warm and light—the very thing for India, and the maker has the satisfaction of knowing that she has made something out of nothing.

Mention must be made of the Mothers' Union Branch of the City Hall Work Party. With an average of twelve workers every week, they made 1,245 articles during 1917, with a specially creditable number of shirts and pyjamas. For January this year, they made 78 garments and in February reached the high total of 108. This all means a very steady attendance at the weekly meetings on Friday afternoons at the Helena May Institute, and the leaders and members may all be congratulated on what they have done to help on the comfort of our soldiers.

As we read in our Premier's speech to-day the heavy burden is carried in the heart, not on the shoulders, but women know that the work of the hands can ease the burden of the heart, and happy is she who knows that her time and skill go towards easing ease and comfort to the men who truly are bearing the burden and heat of the day. We are told not to discourage or depress others—so let us keep our eyes and minds on our work, that in the end we may have peace in our hearts, knowing that we have done what we could.

## AMERICAN RED CROSS.

## Enthusiasm of Hongkong Branch.

The Hongkong branch of the American Red Cross is completing its organisation quite successfully and it is understood that active work along some lines similar to those followed at work at the City Hall is being arranged for by the American women concerned.

There are 72 members of the local branch at the present time, including 45 life members, 8 sustaining members, 12 contributing members, and 7 subscribing members, these various grades of membership being based upon varying membership fees. However, the work to be done is based upon contributing usually arranged for upon a monthly basis, and the organisation is arranging for monthly contributions from members and friends. Membership is not limited to Americans only, but is open to all men and women interested in the work of the American Red Cross. Membership imposes no special obligations, but is usually limited to those who are actually interested in such work.

Members of the Hongkong Chapter are quite enthusiastic as to the prospects of their organisation and expect to do very effective work.

Buildings usually constructed in the United States and other countries, composed of a skeleton of iron profile W bars, have been "battered in" concrete have proved incapable of resisting the severe 1914 earthquake of which the frame work is of iron and capable of resisting normal weights and stresses but the concrete which fills the gaps between the steel bars is not strong enough to resist the weight of the concrete above it, and the whole structure is liable to collapse.







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Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tjilarem	Java	18th Mar.	20th Mar.	Amoy & Shanghai
Scerakaria	Java	16th Mar.	18th Mar.	Amoy & Shanghai
Tjipanas	Java	27th Mar.	1st Apr.	Saigon.
Tjimanoeck	Java	29th Mar.	6th Apr.	Amoy & Shanghai

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FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND HOOGHOO AND RETURN.  
(Overcupping 8 to 10 days.)

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Malayan	A. E. Hodgins	TUES., 19th Mar. at noon.
Malhong	J. W. Evans	FRI., 22nd Mar. at noon.

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Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

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NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Thur., 21st Mar. at d'light
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Thur., 21st Mar. at noon
HAIPHONG	Loongsang	Fri., 22nd Mar. at 7 a.m.
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri., 22nd Mar. at 3 p.m.
TIENTSIN	Chipsing	Sun., 24th Mar. at d'light
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 29th Mar. at 3 p.m.

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SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai. Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained by vessels with good passenger accommodations, sailings from both ports every Friday.  
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## SHIPPING-NEWS.

## Maiden Voyage.

The sailing vessel Houn Maru No. 1, 348 tons, chartered by the Furai Co., started on her maiden voyage from Dairen to Kobe with a full cargo of sesamum. She is registered at Chemulpo and was launched at Antung last November, having been rigged up at the Kawasaki Dock.

## South Wales Ship-Repairing.

The past year has been remarkable for the vast amount of ship-repairing work which has been successfully carried through in the South Wales district. The Bristol Channel ship-repairing trade has never been so actively employed and in order to cope with the vast amount of work which was diverted to the district, managerial capacity was fully tested. Owing to regulations it is not permitted to describe any particular jobs, but it will suffice to say that the capacity and skill of all years has been tested to the full by the varied and peculiar jobs which have been carried out in the district in record time. This is likely to have a lasting influence upon the future of the district, and what can be accomplished in South Wales has been strikingly demonstrated this year, and constitutes a splendid advertisement for the capacity and skill of the various firms in turning out with expedition jobs the like of which have never been undertaken in this district before. On all sides it is admitted that the South Wales district, as far as dockyarding and ship-repairing is concerned, will be very actively employed for two or three years after the declaration of peace. There is a vast amount of work which has been deferred until a more propitious period arrives. The amount of re-classification work will be enormous, while practically all the vessels afloat will need overhauling owing to the intensified way they are being worked at the present time. South Wales will undoubtedly continue to receive the bulk of the ship-repairing work inasmuch as the North-East Coast will for some years be actively engaged in ship construction. The plant and machinery in practically all the firms has been kept fully up to date, and time-saving appliances have been generally introduced. Works organisation has been revolutionised so that the output of the district for the years of peace will be upon a much higher scale than was shown in pre-war years. Furthermore, the combination and extensions which have taken place during the war will result in quickened despatch. Competition between one firm and another has been non-existent for some time, and such conditions are likely to continue, while the district is coping with an unparalleled amount of work. Upon the return to anything approaching normal times competition for business will again be shown, and upon a scale which is likely to be more intensified than ever before. For during the war the smaller class of firms have been rejuvenated by the enormous amount of work available. Jobs have been undertaken and carried through successfully. The status of the smaller firms has increased to a remarkably sharp extent, and they are likely to prove formidable competitors when normal times arrive. However, normally cannot be expected until at least four years after the conclusion of peace. The work of expeditiously repairing vessels has this year been of the highest national importance. The various managers of the dry docks and ship-repairing yards have fully realised this, and in the endeavour to give the quickest out-turn possible have been compelled in the general speeding up process to work practically seven days a week throughout the year. They have worked hand-in-hand with the authorities, and it is to be hoped that the untiring work of the managers of the chief yards will not go unrewarded. A number of these could well have retired before the war commenced, but at the outbreak of hostilities foresaw the necessity of carrying on in the national interest and worked such as they never worked before. It is not to be wondered at, particularly in regard to detail in general, the work which has been done, much of which was unpaid. It is not at all improbable that this work will go unappreciated, and that efforts made have been rewarded for monetary reasons by a high sense of duty.







## CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

## To-day's Cases at the Supreme Court.

The March Criminal Sessions opened at the Supreme Court this morning, the most interesting feature of the sitting being the charge preferred against a Chinese for the murder of Inspector O'Sullivan and Clarke, in the Green Street affair.

Retained, Banister. Wong Wai was indicted on a charge of returning from banishment. Prisoner pleaded guilty. The Attorney-General stated that prisoner was first convicted for larceny on March 17, 1911. He was then sent to prison for three months and later banished. He returned and was banished for 20 years. He had now returned again.

Prisoner said he came here as he was going abroad. He had finished his money and was arrested by the Police.

His Lordship said that as prisoner had only returned twice, he would not pass such a severe sentence on him as he did sometimes when men had returned three times. He would go to prison for two years.

A Harbour Scene. Li Kwai and Lo Oi were indicted on a charge of assault with intent to rob and, secondly, with wounding on February 6, in the Harbour.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty. The jury were empanelled as follows: Messrs W. Forsyth, M. B. Beltrac, W. Falconer, Ford (Jun.), A. A. d'Almeida, A. O. Leith, C. A. Coburn, and L. E. Remedios.

The Attorney-General prosecuted and said that on February 6, the junk of Lo Ping with others, was lying at West Point. On board were the master, his wife, two daughters, a small son, and a total of 11 people were asleep. At about 11.30 at night several men got on the boat. They were heard by the older woman, who came out of her cabin. She was immediately seized by two men, and was wounded in the leg and thigh with a knife, and had to be taken to the Hospital later. One of the men also drew a knife across her face, causing a slight cut, and pepper was thrown in her eyes. A struggle also took place between one of the robbers and the master, in the midst of which both of them fell overboard. There was a great commotion and shouts of "Save life!" Neighbours came to the rescue and the robbers got away in a boat.

The prisoners were found guilty and both sentenced to five years' hard labour and ten strokes with the "cat."

Bribery Charge. Lo Dick, a Chinese school-master, was charged with offering a bribe of \$18 to Mr. Lo Yan-pak, the Inspector of Vernacular Schools.

The same jury was empanelled. The Hon. Attorney-General prosecuted, and prisoner was undefended.

The evidence given by Mr. Yau was to the effect that he was in charge of the Regulation of Schools. Under the Education Ordinance, 1913. All schools with more than ten pupils had to be registered. He first saw the defendant in January, in Wing Lee Street, where he had gone to see if the defendant was keeping an unregistered school. Defendant admitted that he had been teaching thirty-nine pupils for the last three years. Witness considered the premises unsatisfactory and told defendant to stop teaching until satisfactory premises were found and the school had been properly registered. Witness saw the defendant early in February, when he came to fill in the application form. In filling up the form the defendant showed some illiteracy and witness then informed him that he could not get a school registered. The next day the man came again to the office, and handed witness an envelope, containing a letter saying that defendant was making him a present of in the hope that he would be allowed to open a school again. There were also a number of bank notes in the letter. Witness took the man to the Central Police station, and it was there found that the money totalled \$18.

## SPOTTED FEVER.

## Over a Hundred Cases Last Week.

During the week ended the 16th instant, there were 113 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis notified as occurring in the Colony (which is nine more than the previous week), while the number of deaths was 33. The affected were two British, one Indian, one Portuguese, one European, and the rest Chinese. Of the cases, 91 were reported from the city of Victoria.

It is intended at present to issue daily returns of the progress of the disease, in addition to the weekly statements. That for the twenty-four hours ending March 16 shows fourteen cases (ten from the city), with eleven deaths, the sufferers being all Chinese.

## CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:

The Special Parliament has wired to the British Minister in Peking protesting against the Central Government's availing itself of the postponed indemnity payment as a security for the National Bonds of the 7th year to the amount of \$45,000,000, and declaring that these bonds will not be recognised.

Commander Lan Chi-luk has reported that Yua Ping district has been recaptured, with 20 prisoners. About 100 were killed. The Yea-Po, a vernacular paper, is supposed to have inserted the news that Yang Kong district was captured by Lang's troops, before the official reports from the Government.

Li-tai-hon, the Civil Governor, returned to Canton from San Hing district on the 16th and immediately called on the Tachun, who, after the conversation, sent a number of instructions to the commanders on the western front.

The Civil Governor has again been requested by Luk Wing-tung to lead an army to attack Lang Chai-kwong.

On receiving a sum of \$100,000 from the salt revenue for expenses, the President of the Special Parliament decided to hold a general meeting on the 8th April and has sent three M. P.s to Shanghai to persuade those from the various Provinces to come to Canton before the appointed time.

## Wine and Spirit Prices.

A deputation representative of the wine and spirit trade interests of the country was received at the Ministry of Food recently. The proceedings were conducted in private, but it is understood that the question of fixing prices for wine and spirits in both the wholesale and retail trade was discussed.

## Two Years in Hiding.

An extraordinary story of an endeavour to evade military service was told at South Shields recently in the case of Charles Edward Millier, aged 27, a joiner. The evidence was that for over two years he has been hidden in a small front room, which he had never left during the whole of that time. His parents, who were charged with aiding, pleaded that he was not strong enough to join the Army. The young man was handed over to the military authorities and his parents were each fined.

Defendant stated that he only gave the money as a present, and had no idea of influencing Mr. Lo Yan-pak in his duties.

Complainant stated that he did not know the defendant personally, and saw, as reason why he should have made him a present. The jury found the accused guilty with a strong recommendation for the mercy of the Court. His Lordship said he was anxious to avoid sending the accused to prison at all, but he did not believe that the accused knew he was committing a serious offence. He imposed a fine of \$50, or one month's hard labour.

## RIFLE SHOOTING.

## The Navy v. H. K. Defence Corps.

The first Rifle League match of the season took place at King's Park Range on Saturday between the Navy and the H. K. Defence Corps, when the Navy won by 17 points. The poor shooting at the 500 yards range was due to the extreme "mirage." It should be pointed out that this season there are three teams drawn from the Defence Corps—the Civil Service, Talkoo, and a composite team. The scores in Saturday's match were:

	Navy.		
	200 500 600		
	yds. yds. yds.		
P. O. McIlindal	30 32 27	89	
Mr. Sears	28 28 30	86	
L. S. Fleming	30 29 26	85	
Mr. Bliss	22 31 31	84	
L. S. Murray	29 24 31	84	
W. O. Carruthers	27 29 24	84	
P. O. Losh	28 27 27	82	
C. P. O. Crane	27 27 25	79	
	222 225 226	673	

Plus allowance for open sights ... 13

686

## H. K. D. C.

Pte. A. Jenkins	34	31	33	98
Sgt. M. Manuk	30	28	33	91
C. M. S. D. Toller	28	31	29	88
C. M. S. F. Goodman	27	31	29	87
Sgt. G. H. M.	27	22	31	80
Blindman	27	22	31	80
Sgt. A. Leach	26	25	29	80
Pte. D. Keith	25	29	25	79
Pte. W. Anderson	25	18	20	63
son	25	18	20	63
	225	215	229	669

## POLICE RESERVE ITEMS.

The Police Reserve Gazette for March is well up to standard and contains some excellent light reading. There is also a competition in which two War Bond Drawing tickets are offered as prizes. We take the following interesting items from the Gazette:

Chief Inspector Farebrother Mason has passed his examination and obtained a Commission in the Machine Gun Corps (Cavalry). He is hoping to be sent either to France or Mesopotamia. P. O. 90 Carpenter has been granted a Commission in the 3rd Battalion East Surrey Regiment, and Lieut. 88 McNeil Wilson has been made 2nd Lieutenant in the R.G.A. Both are well-known members of the Hongkong Regular Police.

Race owners have presented petitions to the Mounted Section of the Corps. The donors are as follows: Messrs. Scores and Moller, five; Sir Ellis Kadorie, three; Mr. F. Maitland, one; Mr. R. M. Dyer, one; the Sergeant Superintendent, H. K. P. K., one; Mr. H. M. H. Nemesse, one.

In regard to the Green Street Fund, we read that the Official Trustee of the Colony has been appointed Trustee of the Fund, by which suitable arrangements have been made in the interests of the dependents of the late Inspector Martin O'Sullivan. Sergeant H. G. Clark, and Acting Lance Sergeant Johnstone, and also for cash payments to relatives of P. O. 410 Mullis Singh, P. O. 29 Kwong Sang, and P. O. 93 Kwong Kai. The administration of the Fund was taken in hand by the following gentlemen: The Hon. Mr. P. H. Hoyle, the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and Hon. Mr. G. M. Meier, U.N.P., together with Mr. E. C. Jenkins, D.S.P. (Ret.), Mr. S. J. Chinohat, (Chief Inspector, Reserve), Mr. Eldon Pater, (Sergeant, Reserve), and Mr. Alan Balam, (Sergeant, Reserve), as Honorary Treasurer. The total amount raised by the Police Reserve was \$15,633, which included about very fine contributions from members of the Hongkong Club. Mr. H. V. Looker kindly offered to undertake all legal matters in connection with the administration of the Fund, without making any professional charge, and using his best efforts to get the Fund up to date.

## RACECOURSE DISASTER.

## Further Evidence Heard To-day.

The inquiry into the sad catastrophe which occurred at the Racecourse, Happy Valley, on February 26, was continued at the Police Court this morning, being conducted by Mr. J. B. Wood, acting as Coroner. The following jury members were also present: Messrs. A. H. Barlow (foreman), J. H. Wallace, and W. C. Jack.

Mr. Hall again represented Mr. M. K. Lo on behalf of a number of Chinese who lost relatives in the disaster; Mr. F. B. L. Bowley represented the contractor, Tse Hoi, who built the stands; Mr. D. V. Stearman appeared for the lessee of the Stand, Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, was also present.

The assistant head cook of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, stated that he was in Shed No. 12 at the time of the collapse. He was selling tickets on the first floor. He was buried in the collapse, but managed to get out through the roof. He heard no commotion before the collapse, but people stampeded just as the collapse commenced. The sheds fell towards the Golf Club. About a minute after he got out he saw fire in the direction of Shed No. 10. There no stoves in his shed.

An aged Chinese, who is a letter writer in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, said he was in Shed No. 12 at the time of the collapse. He saw no stoves there. There was a commotion first and then the sheds collapsed. He was on the top floor, and there were only about sixty or seventy people on that floor. He managed to crawl through a hole and out on the Golf Club side, but he had to be given assistance, and taken home, because he hurt his shoulder. It was only after he got out that he saw fire. Several folk in the shed lost their lives, but he had heard that nobody on the top floor was killed. He could not tell the cause of the collapse. Most of the people at the time were looking at the horses, and were therefore in the front of the stand. It took him about ten minutes to get out.

A sheriff of Messrs. Bradley & Co. a shareholder in Shed No. 13 said there were thirty-four shareholders owning eighty odd shares. The shed had two floors. He had held it about five or six years, and the shed was built in the same pattern as last year. The first floor was made of teak, being the best for spectators. There were no fires of any kind. Any person could go in the shed, but an Indian watchman was always on duty. He was on the first floor at the time of the collapse. Witness went on to state what took place, saying that he was pinned down, but was afterwards rescued in an unconscious state. He heard no cries of fire before the collapse. Nine of his partners in the shed died.

By Mr. Bowley: One of his partners inspected the shed before it was used. There were no buckets of water kept there, no lights were installed. The proprietors of Messrs. J. D. Hutchison and Company, a partner in Shed No. 14, stated that there were seven partners. He examined the shed before the Races, and it seemed very much the same as last year. The upright poles were reeving on boards, and had done so for two or three years. No cooking or boiling of water was done. The shed had two and a half floors. Nothing happened before the collapse, but the shed appeared to be safe. On the first day he did hear some people say that they thought the shed was moving. The people were buying tickets at the time. It was only said that once, and the time would be between half past two and three o'clock. He noticed nothing himself. Witness proceeded to describe his experiences at the time of the collapse, telling of how he was pinned down, and how he later crawled out. There were over a hundred people in the shed at the time.

By Mr. Bowley: Anybody could go in the shed. When the witness on the Monday afternoon reported that the shed was moving

the proprietor had examined the shed, but everything seemed all right. By Mr. Bowley: There were no lights in the shed, and there was only a large tub of water for washing up purposes.

A Chinese insurance broker, who was assistant manager for the Chun Lei shed, stated that the Chun Lei shed had the ground floor of Stand No. 14 also. A small chatty for the heating of water was kept there. There were about fifty or sixty people there at the time of the collapse. The police had made a raid in the shed earlier in the day. This witness told of his experiences during the collapse, saying that just before the fall many people in the first floor rushed from the back of the shed to the Racecourse side. He also rushed. He thought there had been a case of matchstick or a light. It was then that the sheds fell. It was after he had got clear of the sheds that he first noticed the fire. He did not know whether his shed fell down by its own weight or whether it was pushed or dragged by others.

Questioned by Mr. Wakeman, witness said he did not know whether the shed was insured. As an insurance broker he thought it was very hard to say whether the presence of the chatty was a dangerous thing. There was only one bucket of water for tea purposes.

By Mr. Bowley: Four of the folk were arrested during the morning by the police for running a "wheel of fortune" on horses.

By His Worship: There was no panic when the Police made the arrest.

A Japanese storekeeper, of Queen's Road East, said he helped to manage Shed No. 15. The principal manager died in the calamity. Witness had helped for six or seven years, and the shed was almost the same as last year.

By Mr. Bowley: He bought the site at the auction and thought he paid \$1,280. He visited the shed on the Sunday before the Races, but could not say whether it had been built according to instructions. He did not examine the matches. The manager was there, and he did not hear any complaints from him about the construction. He did not feel any movement of the matches on the first day. Immediately before the collapse he heard someone say, "there was a danger of a sweep taking place on the top floor." He had carried on with his work, as he had every year, the proceeds being in aid of the Japanese Benevolent Society. At the time he thought it was an earthquake, but he did not think so now. He tried to effect a rescue from the Racecourse side. When he noticed the fire it was some distance from his booth. There was only a small blaze, but smoke was going very high. The people in his shed were burnt because they had not been rescued. Only ten or fifteen minutes elapsed before the fire reached his booth. There were two tubs of water in the shed, used for washing and drinking. He was working all the time on the Racecourse side.

Lo Yuk-nan, an accountant in the Tung Ying Chai restaurant, said he had a share in the Yan Shun shed, No. 16. There were five partners, each with eleven shares. There were three floors, including the ground floor. The shed was built according to their instructions, and it was examined before the meeting. There was no cooking done in the shed. Anyone could enter the shed. Betting was done in the booth. Witness was on the ground floor, used for the selling of tickets. There was one entrance to the shed, on the ground floor, from the Golf Club side. At the time of the collapse he would say there was about 300 people in the shed. It was not very full—70 to 80 per cent full. He heard people about a collapse, but he did not run. He tried to run but he could not get away. The building cracked and he was pinned down behind the counter, which prevented other people falling on him. He made a hole in the roof and got out on the Racecourse side. He then saw fire from sheds 13 and 14. He went home with the aid of his neighbours.

The Colony's Health. Besides the cases of spotted fever mentioned elsewhere, there were notified last week two cases of enteric fever and two of smallpox. There was one death from each disease and all the sufferers were Chinese.

He could not say what the cause of the collapse was. By Mr. Bowley: On Monday or Tuesday morning he did not notice any moving of the shed. There were some openings in the top floors through which tickets were sold by means of small baskets. There were no lamps in the shed. After evidence by another Chinese, Mr. F. Graham, Manager of the Hongkong Electric Light Company, said he had applications from some of the booths to supply electric current and fittings this year. Current was supplied to No. 8, 10, 11 and 12. This was the same as last year. In booths No. 4, 5 and 6 there were six lights, in No. 10 six lights, in No. 11 eighteen lights and in No. 12 eighteen lights. The fittings in the other sheds were put up with his permission. He had meters fixed at all the places where current was supplied. Most of these were inspected by the company's inspectors, who reported that they were all right. A double-holed fuse was put in with the meters, which would afford protection in case of firing. That was the regular provision. By Mr. Wakeman: Was there any possibility of a wire fusing in case of a collapse?—I don't quite understand that. What was meant by wires fusing, he did not know. In his opinion, the sheds were in no danger of fire from the electric fittings in the event of a collapse. The meters were fixed usually as near to where the wires entered as possible. There were wires entering the sheds from the Golf Club. The connection was made between these meters, and the main was outside the Golf Club House. It was possible but not probable that the presence of 100 volts might be a source of danger in the event of a collapse. It was impossible that the light might come on and go off during the collapse, caused, possibly by something knocking against the switch or pull-out of the switch. Electric current was first supplied to some of these sheds in 1911. He had never heard of anything being out of order for the whole of the period current had been supplied. He had never considered the possibility of a collapse of the matches affecting the electric light.

By Mr. Bowley: The wiring of matches was very different to that of wiring in a house, because it was of a temporary nature. The precautions taken in the case of matches were fewer than those taken in houses. He did not think there was any special risk in wiring matches. Mr. P. M. Hodgson said on February 24 he was officiating on the Racecourse as an official timekeeper. Shortly before three o'clock he was going to the five furlong post. He happened to be looking towards the Chinese stands when he noticed the stand about the right of the middle of the stands pointed out No. 14 perceptibly swaying. It shook backwards and forwards two or three times. The people in the stand in the seat of all appeared to be moving about. A hook away to the west and seemed to push down all the stands to the left of them, except the last stand. The people in all the other stands seemed to go down with the stands. They were not rushing. He could not say when the tall stand on the right came down. It did not appear to start with the others. Almost the same time as the stands collapsed he noticed a thin wisps of smoke coming up from behind. He remarked to Mr. Vick, who was standing with him, that he was surprised that the stands had caught fire so quickly. About three minutes after that he saw several flames. The evidence of this witness was still continuing when we went to press.

## TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

If anyone is inclined to complain about the fact that the British Government has not yet received the first mail from the Tristan D'Acunha Islands, who received in November 1910, their first mail for twelve years, and are accordingly puffed up because they are prospective in two years. There are 52 males and 53 females on the island and only one cup left with a handle to it, the common drinking vessel being the tumbler.

The war has brought again into operation a number of the quaint devices of the Middle Ages. They were formerly driven by water power, much on the lines of the water-mills and for generations played an important part in the shovel and pen making industries before the development of modern machinery. The revival of the mills is no longer for the rolling of steel for gun barrels, but for various phases of munition manufacture. The pool steel mill has hardly time now to feed the war and hail col traps.

Discipline in the Army, by all means, but there is no need for it to percolate into every nook and cranny of "social life" at home. Many officers, in passing through the London streets, dislike the everlasting salutes which they have to acknowledge. Others there are who stand stiffly by the convention. One of these, a major, a few days ago sharply rebuked an Australian M.O. who passed him on the street without saluting. "Haven't your colonel taught you to salute your superior officers?" inquired the major. "No," was the reply of the unashamed Australian, "but he has taught us how to fight."

Commander Sir Douglas Brownrigg, who receives the C.B. is the Chief Naval Counsel. He has filled a very thankless post throughout the war with great tact, and those whose business it is to comment on naval matters have found him a most kindly tyrant. He was an naval attaché at Tokyo for some years, and some of the suave diplomacy of the East seems to have entered into his composition. No man can be more politely and uncommittally than the Chief Counsel when it is a question of keeping secret.

That astonishing discovery of a primitive petroleum near Potborough leaves even the expert speculating. Previous local finds have been hitherto explained as leakages from some neighbouring oilman's store; but the Ramsey one is on too large a scale to admit of such a solution. There are two schools of opinion as to the origin of petrol—one which claims vegetation as the basis, and another which inclines to believe that vast accumulations of animal remains may account for some puzzling anomalies. If the latter theory be correct, the Ramsey outcrop may be taken as the revelation of some local catastrophe, ages ago, in the animal world.

Fran Wagner, who celebrated his 80th birthday recently, and whose son Siegfried warned their friends not to call to congratulate him unless they were prepared to freeze in the frosty rooms of their Berlin residence, may very happily have recalled the Christmas Eve 47 years ago when Wagner arranged a surprise concert in honour of his birthday in the cosy villa overlooking Lake Lucerne. The surprise was the first performance of the "Siegfried Idyll," which Wagner wrote in honour of his baby boy, Siegfried, then a few months old. The composer entrusted a young, untried, and inexperienced pianist with the preparation of the music. Siegfried Wagner has tried strenuously to live up to his father's motto, as an original musician. But the Germans have never taken him seriously as a composer, and when six years ago he conducted a performance of his compositions at the Albert Hall he was unable to attract Londoners to fill his first night.

The Colony's Health. Besides the cases of spotted fever mentioned elsewhere, there were notified last week two cases of enteric fever and two of smallpox. There was one death from each disease and all the sufferers were Chinese.



YESTERDAY'S  
TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

## THE WESTERN STRUGGLE.

London, March 15.  
Reuter's correspondent at French headquarters says: Although the enemy does not give any sign when the long-promised offensive will break he is still accumulating men and material on our front with an intention which seemingly admits of only one explanation. He has 100 divisions on the Franco-Belgian fronts and over one-third of these are in reserve ready to be hurled at any point selected. Why the Germans are allowing week after week of wonderful weather to pass without moving is possibly explained by their anxiety to know exactly how many divisions still in Russia can be counted upon for the West before committing themselves to the most dangerous and most unpromising adventure of the war. Behind the enemy's front his preparations are evident. New aerodromes, new roads and immense hutments are continually being constructed. His reserves are in cantonments far from the front, hence it is impossible to know the point where the attack may be expected. If he attacks he will stake all on a chance of victory. Our defence preparations are on a most formidable scale.

London, March 15.  
Reuter's correspondent with the American Army in France states that the Americans in the Lunville sector have retained and consolidated the enemy's trenches north-east of Badonville which they captured in a recent raid. This is the first permanent American advance in France and enables the Americans and French to operate on higher ground. A feeble German attempt to retake them was repulsed.

London, March 15.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: The Australians encountered a strong patrol last night in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Comines canal and prisoners twenty-seven. Our casualties were light. The Australians successfully repulsed the westward of Houtem and in the neighbourhood of Geyard securing prisoners and inflicting casualties. There was great activity of hostile artillery from Vermicourt to south of Armentieres. The Portuguese drove back a strong enemy party in this neighbourhood. The enemy's artillery was above normal eastward of Ypres. We entered the enemy's lines westward of Villers Guislain and brought back prisoners. We repulsed raids in the neighbourhoods of Passchendaele and Poelcapelle. There was reciprocal artillery southward and westward of Cambrai, south-westward of Armentieres and in the Messines-Menin Road sectors.

London, March 15.  
A French communiqué states: We drove out the enemy from the trenches he occupied west of Mont-comillet in Champagne on the 1st inst. and prisoners forty-two. A detachment simultaneously penetrated the German lines at Mout-blond and brought back prisoners.

## PLOT IN CHINA.

London, March 15.  
The Peking Government has received from Sinkiang confirmation of reports that an agent of the Turks is attempting to incite the Mohammedans in China to declare independence.

## OVERSEAS TRADE.

London, March 15.  
The Bill establishing a Secretariat of the Overseas Trade Department passed its second reading.  
Mr. P. J. McKellen, the Trade Commissioner for Singapore, is expected to leave England next week to take up his appointment.

## THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

Petrograd, March 15.  
The Commander of the Northern Front has arrested Prince Lvoff. M. Trotsky has been appointed Commissary of Military Affairs. The post of Commander-in-Chief has been abolished.

Telephone communication between Petrograd and Helsinki has been interrupted for two days. The reason is unknown.

The Germans occupying Abol numbered three thousand with artillery. They came from Asand Island. The town was bombarded for half an hour and three Russian torpedo-boats and a number of mine sweepers were seized.

## TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

## THE TONNAGE PROBLEM.

London, March 15.  
During the discussion of the Appropriation Bill Mr. Bonar Law said publication of the tonnage losses was being discussed by the Allies. He hoped Sir Eric Geddes would be able to give accurate figures when making his shipbuilding statement on the 20th inst. Nothing but good could result from publication as the losses were much less than the enemy's estimates. The real reason for publication was to make the men in the shipyards feel that their work was equally as vital to the war as fighting in the trenches. "He was certain the results would astonish those who were disappointed now and they would be very much better in future. The Government realised the necessity of securing the hearty co-operation of the shipyard workers. The Premier was continually engaged with the problem. He and Sir Eric Geddes to-day had seen a number of representative shipbuilders. The number of men in the shipyards was steadily increasing. When results were had in January and February there was no scarcity of steel and the amount of labour was far greater than in the previous three months when the results were good. More men were being brought from the army but it was not easy to get them owing to the reluctance of commanders to lose good men and the reluctance of the men to leave their comrades in the trenches.

The Appropriations Bill passed its third reading.

## BRITISH DETERMINATION.

London, March 14.  
Mr. Albert Thomas writing to the "Daily Chronicle," his impressions of a visit Britain says he was overjoyed to witness the strength and greatness of industrial Britain. The whole extended activities testified that the British realised that economic means were necessary to secure the triumph of the ideals of freedom so dear to Britain and France. The very constitution of the British Empire and the long established intercourse between Britain and her dominions constituted the best foundations for a League of Nations. Mr. Thomas says that opinion in Britain was better than he had been led to expect. A rumour was spread on the continent a few weeks ago that Britain was seized with a great longing for peace and her Government was searching for a means of ending the war at the speediest. His visit had convinced him that British tenacity and determination to prosecute the war was as strong as during the Napoleonic wars.

BRITAIN FURTHER  
VINDICATED.

London, March 15.  
The "Times" says the Stockholm socialist newspaper "Politiken" publishes a Memorandum written by Prince Lichnowsky on German policy when he was Ambassador in London. The Memorandum was written in August, 1914, for the purpose of expounding and justifying his position to his personal friends. Only half a dozen typewritten copies were made, one of which, through betrayal, reached the Wilhelmstrasse where it caused a great scandal. Another reached the minority Socialists who somehow got it across the German frontier. The document, which the "Times" accepts as authentic, is chiefly important as affording additional overwhelming proof of Britain's constant desire for peace. Prince Lichnowsky describes how on arrival in London in 1912 he found Sir Edward Grey had refused to give up the idea of an agreement with Germany. The British statesmen's aim was not to isolate Germany but to get Germany to participate in an already established concert by removing causes of friction between England and Germany and securing a world peace by a network of agreements. He adds Sir Edward Grey seemed to find a way out of every apparent deadlock. The "Times" accepts the document as authentic.

## A SIGNIFICANT ASSERTION.

London, March 15.  
The Turkish assertion that there was severe fighting with Armenian bands who set Erzerum on fire prior to its occupation is regarded as a sinister warning of fresh Armenian massacres.

## TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

## DUTCH SHIPPING SEIZURE.

London, March 15.  
Light is thrown on the Allied action in regard to Dutch shipping by the statement of the United States War Trade Board that cumulative evidence shows that Germany is now using submarines to prevent neighbour neutrals receiving food from the United States or the Allies in order to starve neutrals into political and economic dependence on Germany. There are also indications that submarines are being used to destroy neutral shipping, regardless of its employment in order to weaken neutral competitors of Germany after the war. The campaign of intimidation of Holland and Scandinavia which the German press is carrying on is obviously intended to prevent neutrals from completing agreements which benefit neutrals equally with the United States and the Allies.

The "Daily Telegraph" in an editorial on the formation of the Allied Maritime Council in conjunction with the announcement regarding Dutch shipping indicates that the Allies have at length realised that the enemy's sea offensive cannot be treated as less important than his advertised land offensive in the West. The journal suggests it may be a matter of serious consideration for the United States whether it would not be more helpful by temporarily holding back reinforcements of troops, and increasing food supplies, and it concludes by urging drastic reorganisation of the British shipping administration and the employment of eighty thousand more men in shipyards.

## RUSSO-JAPANESE SITUATION.

London, March 15.  
Mr. Balfour, continuing his speech in the House of Commons on the Russo-Japanese situation said that if the time came for Japanese aid two points must be remembered. The Japanese would be friends and Allies of Russia against Germany and their object would be the preservation of Russia from Germany. Mr. Balfour did not suggest that Germany might send a military expedition to Vladivostok which would be militarily fatal and a waste of time, but Russia to-day lay absolutely derelict upon the waters, disastrously open from end to end for German penetration. Apparently Mr. Lee Smith was ignorant of how far this penetration had already gone. A German officer in Russia would be safer than an Allied officer. Only one Bank was allowed in Moscow and it was a German Bank. Russia sincerely desired to resist German penetration but, having destroyed every instrument of resistance, she was helpless. Therefore why cannot the Allies supply what is lacking? Mr. Balfour graphically outlined a prophecy of Russia's future with Germany following her time worn plan of fostering disorder. Germany always wished to encourage disorder in any other country but her own. If a country was republican Germany endeavored to introduce absolutism, if it was an absolute country she wished to encourage rebellion. Her game was to make other Governments weak by stirring up divisions unchecked. Therefore Germany would strive for perpetual Russian disorders with the inevitable result—because national unity was at present at a low ebb.

## TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph.")

## MR. ASQUITH'S OPINION.

London, March 15.  
Mr. Asquith in a speech to the Women's Liberal Federation said the alleged Russo-German peace was an object lesson of the kind of peace Germany would seek to impose on the Allies. Victory was the only road whereby the peace of the world would be placed beyond the jeopardy of ambitions and the rivalry of selfish mischief-making interests and forces (loud cheers).

## A BRITISH REPRISAL.

London, March 15.  
Reuter is informed that the German Government having intimated that they consider themselves entitled to place British officers in whatever localities may be convenient, whether such localities are specially liable to air raids or not, the British Government has naturally decided to adopt a similar course in the case of German officers.

## STOICISM OF THE SCOT.

Reticence of the Brave Soldier  
Has Its Disadvantages.

Who is the best soldier patient? A nurse in a great military hospital, chatting with a *Daily News* representative recently spoke with enthusiasm of the wonderful stoicism of the average Scottish soldier when he is suffering acute agony. "All the doctors I have met," she declared, "are agreed about the capacity of the Scot for bearing pain without flinching. There was one fine laddie upon whom I was attending recently. He was dreadfully injured, but it was necessary to turn him over, even though the operation hurt him more terribly than anything. The doctor realised something of what it meant, and gave instructions for the utmost care and tenderness to be exercised. When the turning was half completed the doctor looked into his white and drawn face and asked how he was. The poor lad simply gave him a patient glance and said, 'Carry on!'"

But the Scot is not the ideal patient. The very reserve which helps to uphold him in excruciating torment makes him difficult to deal with in the early stages of illness. He is so taciturn that only with considerable trouble, very often, is it possible to discover his symptoms. It would perhaps, after all, not be fair to specify those whom the nurse regarded as the worst among soldier patients—on account of their natural excitability. The heroism of endurance knows no line of territory. She was looking at the question solely from the professional point of view—which is directed, of course, towards appreciation of the cases that are least exacting to those in attendance.

HONGKONG SHARE  
REPORT.

S—SELLERS; B—BUYERS;  
B—BUYERS; N—NOMINAL.

## OFFICIAL PRICES.

## BANKS.

## MARINE INSURANCES.

## FIRE INSURANCES.

## SHIPPING.

## REFINERIES.

## MINING.

DOCKS, WHARVES,  
GODOWNS, & C.LANDS, HOTELS  
AND BUILDINGS.

## COTTON MILLS.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

CORRECTED TO MONDAY  
MARCH 18, 1918.BENJAMIN & POTTS,  
Share and General Brokers,  
Princes Building.  
Tel. address: Broker.

## EXCHANGE.

## SELLING.

## BUYING.

## SUBSIDIARY COINS.

## DISCOUNT PER \$100.

## H'kong 5 cts. p. sub. c. \$4.00 dis.

## " 10 " " " 50 " "

## " 20 " " " 100 " "

## " 25 " " " 125 " "

## " 30 " " " 150 " "

## " 35 " " " 175 " "

## " 40 " " " 200 " "

## " 45 " " " 225 " "

## " 50 " " " 250 " "

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## " 305 " " " 1525 " "

## " 310 " " " 1550 " "

## " 315 " " " 1575 " "

## " 320 " " " 1600 " "

## " 325 " " " 1625 " "

## " 330 " " " 1650 " "

## " 335 " " " 1675 " "

## " 340 " " " 1700 " "

## " 345 " " " 1725 " "

## " 350 " " " 1750 " "

## BANKS.

BANK OF CANTON,  
LIMITED.

## HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and  
General Banking Business  
Transacted.INTEREST ON FIXED  
DEPOSITS:

## For 3 Months 3% per annum.

## For 6 Months 4% per annum.

## For 12 Months 4% per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN,  
Chief Manager.BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE  
DE CHINE.

## 行銀業實法中

Capital (Paid up) France 45,000,000  
(1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the  
Government of the Chinese Republic.)Chairman of the  
Board of Directors Andre Bartholot.

## General Manager A. J. Pernotte.

HEAD OFFICE:  
74 Rue Saint Lazare, PARIS.BRANCHES:  
PEKING, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN,  
HONGKONG, and SAIGON.

## BANKERS.

In FRANCE: Société Générale pour  
favoriser le Développement du Com-  
merce et de l'Industrie en France.In LONDON: London County & West-  
minster Bank, Ltd.

## In NEW YORK: Bedmond &amp; Co.

## In ITALY: Banca Commerciale Italiana.

## Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts  
and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.Every description of Banking and  
Exchange business transacted.

## M. ROUET DE JOUREL, Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH:  
Queen's Building, Tel. No. 2552  
5, Chater Road.  
Hongkong, 20th August, 1917.

## NOTICES.

## NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO.  
LIMITED.

## TIME TABLE.

## HONGKONG BRANCH.

Every description of Banking and Exchange  
business transacted.Interest allowed on Current Accounts of ex-  
cess of Daily Balances and on Fixed Deposits  
at rates which will be ascertained on application.C. CHAMPKIN,  
Acting Manager.INTERNATIONAL BANKING  
CORPORATION.HEAD OFFICE:  
60, Wall St., New York.LONDON OFFICE:  
25, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4.

## CAPITAL &amp; RESERVE FUND \$10,000,000

## UNDIVIDED PROFITS U.S. \$1,348,000

## U.S. \$7,248,000

## BRANCHES:

BATAVIA, LONDON, MANILA, PANAMA, SANTIAGO DE  
CHILE, CANTON, HANKOW, HONGKONG, Kobe, YokohamaThrough its close affiliation with the  
NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK,  
the Bank is able to offer the Services of the  
Branches of that Institution in the United States  
and elsewhere, namely:

## BANK OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, N.Y.

## BANK OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

## BANK OF CHINA, HONGKONG, CHINA

## BANK OF INDIA, CALCUTTA, INDIA

## BANK OF JAPAN, TOKYO, JAPAN

## BANK OF MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

## BANK OF PANAMA, PANAMA, PANAMA

## BANK OF PERU, LIMA, PERU

## BANK OF PORTUGAL, LISBON, PORTUGAL

## BANK OF SPAIN, MADRID, SPAIN

## BANK OF SWITZERLAND, ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

## BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

## BANK OF THE UNITED STATES, NEW YORK, N.Y.

## BANK OF TAIPEI, TAIPEI, TAIWAN

## BANK OF TIENTSIN, TIENTSIN, CHINA

## BANK OF YOKOHAMA, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

All kinds of FOREIGN & LOCAL BANKING  
BUSINESS transacted.CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED  
DEPOSITS received at rates to be ascertained on  
application.GEORGE HOGG,  
Manager.

## Hongkong, 26th September, 1916

THE  
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK  
LIMITED.

## Established 1880.

## Authorized Capital Yen 48,000,000

## Paid-up Capital " 86,000,000

## Reserve Fund " 23,100,000

## Head Office.—YOKOHAMA.

## Branches and Agencies:

## Batavia, Calcutta, Canton, Hankow, Hongkong, Kobe, Yokohama

## London, Manila, Panama, Santiago de Chile, S. Francisco

## Shanghai, Tientsin, Yokohama

Interest allowed on Current Accounts, Deposits  
received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained  
on application.

## EISHI ONO, Manager.

## Hongkong, 11th March, 1915



As originally supplied to NAPOLEON The Great.  
The fine quality of the wine will at once commend it to the most critical.  
SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA:  
H. RUTTONJEE & SON, 10 QUEEN'S ROAD.



SMOKED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

# The "Three Castles" Cigarettes



Just Pure Rich Mellow  
Virginia Tobacco

THE CIGARETTE WITH THE PEDIGREE

IF YOU SMOKE A PIPE OF COURSE YOU SMOKE "CAPTAIN NAVY CUT"

## POST OFFICE.

The Parcel Post service to places in South China is suspended until further notice.

In future mail for Hongkong with be closed at the General Post Office and at Sheung Wan B. P. O. at 5 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, on other days as at present.

The Russian Post Office refuses to accept any further mails for transmission to Europe by the Trans-Siberian railway.

The London Post Office advises that all parcels (except those for Prisoners of War) and all sample packets for Denmark, Holland, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland will be stopped by the Military Censor unless posted under a War Office permit.

The importation into the Commonwealth of Australia of tea, other than that grown or produced in British Possessions is prohibited, unless the consent in writing of the Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Customs has been first obtained.

The Parcel Post Services to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Forces), and to Abyssinia, Bagdad, Ethiopia, French Somali Coast, Italian Somaliland, Portuguese East Africa, Zanzibar and Russia have been suspended.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Uninsured parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong in bags and the Public are therefore advised to pack such parcels very carefully.

## NOTICE.

## NOTICE.

We have been appointed by Messrs. Jenson & Nicholson Limited of London to be their Sole Agents in Hongkong, South China, and the Philippine Islands, for the sale of their Vermishes, Enamels, Paints, Colours and all kind of lines manufactured by them.

THE HONGKONG MERCANTILE CO. LTD.  
Hongkong, 15th March, 1918.

## GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER  
AND SURVEYOR.

## PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on  
**TUESDAY, the 19th, March 1918,**  
commencing at 11.30 a.m.  
at No. 51 Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. (Kowloon).  
6 Bales Tobacco Leaf.  
17 Bales Tobacco Clippings.  
Terms—Cash on delivery.  
GEO. P. LAMMERT,  
Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on  
**WEDNESDAY, the 20th, March 1918,**  
commencing at 11 a.m.  
at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,

12 cases Muntz Metal Sheathing  
20 cases " " Nails  
20 bales Hemp twine  
10 " Cotton Prints  
15 " Turkey Red  
5 " Dungaree  
30 " Gunnies  
13 cases Butcher Knives  
9 " Hoes  
25 " Glass Beads  
1 " Hlang Hlang Oil  
1 " Boots and Shoes  
Terms—Cash on delivery.  
GEO. P. LAMMERT,  
Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on  
**THURSDAY, the 21st March, 1918,**  
commencing at 11 a.m.  
on Kowloon Marine Lot No. 49 (Yaumati),

(For account of the concerned)  
223 Bales Fibre Bristles.  
210 Bags Groundnuts.  
46 Emph. Barrels.  
1 Lot ballots of Coconut Fibre.  
Terms—Cash on delivery.  
GEO. P. LAMMERT,  
Auctioneer.

## NOTICES.

## WAI KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER  
No. 129, Des Vaux Road Central  
Top Floor,  
HONGKONG.  
Telephone No. 1833

## ASAHI BEER.



SOLE AGENTS  
Messrs. Bussan Kaisha  
Singapore, 1918

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## HEIR FOR SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.

London, March 16.  
Lady Haig has given birth to a son. (Lady Haig, wife of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, was formerly the Hon. Dorothy Vivian, third daughter of Lord Vivian. They were married in 1905 and have one daughter).

## AMERICAN COTTON AND WOOL.

New York, March 16.  
The State authorities have begun an investigation to determine whether certain woolen merchants here have been trying to corner the wool and cotton supplies of the world for the benefit of Germany. The Textile Alliance, a semi-official Anglo-American agency, is understood to be interested in the enquiry.

Julius Forstmann, woolen manufacturer, testified that while the United States was still neutral he received instructions from Count Bernstorff to take orders from Mr. Albert, a German financial agent, in all matters relating to wool shipments. Witness at the time believed he was also acting in the interest of the United States. He said he had seen a letter from Mr. Bryan, then Secretary of State, declaring he would be glad if he could accommodate the Germans with textiles, as they could thereby get German dyes in return.

The prosecutor at this point remarked that he did not doubt that witness undertook to ship wool to Germany with the authority of the State Department, but would show that this authority was obtained by false pretences.

## DEATH OF SIR GEORGE ALEXANDER.

London, March 16.  
The death is announced of Sir George Alexander. (Born in 1858 Sir George started in the City, but being an enthusiastic amateur actor, soon took to the stage and won both fame and honour. He became manager of St. James's Theatre, London).

## MONASTIR BOMBARDED.

Corfu, March 16.  
The Bulgarians severely bombarded Monastir on the 13th inst. using asphyxiating shells and inflicting considerable damage.

## BRITISH SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMME.

London, March 16.  
The "Daily News" says the Cabinet has fixed the programme of shipbuilding for the year. Sir Eric Geddes is establishing a new department to be solely concerned with shipbuilding and probably in charge of a Junior Minister.

## DANISH STEAMER TORPEDOED.

Copenhagen, March 15.  
The Danish steamer Randelsborg has been torpedoed outside the German danger zone. The Captain was made prisoner and the crew abandoned after the Germans had rifled the ship.

## OCCUPATION OF ERZERUM.

London, March 16.  
A wireless Turkish official message, dated 15th inst., states: We captured 168 guns, and a number of mine-throwers at Erzerum.

## THE HARTLEPOOL RAID.

London, March 16.  
The Press Bureau announces that the total casualties in the airship raid on Hartlepool the night of the 13th inst. were:—Killed: two men, two women and four children; injured: four men, nine women and nine children.

## THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

London, March 15.  
The "Gazette" announces that the Air Force will henceforth be styled the "Royal Air Force."

## THE RUMANIAN CABINET.

Jassy, March 15.  
The Rumanian Cabinet has resigned. M. Morghiloman, a former Finance Minister, is expected to succeed Premier Averescu.  
The "Daily Express" understands that Premier Averescu's resignation is due to the fact that his Cabinet declined the German peace terms.

## INCREASED EXPORTS AND EXPORTS.

London, March 15.  
Exports for February show an increase of £218,095 and imports £28,106,145, compared with February of last year.

## HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Kansas City, March 16.  
Jesse Willard is to fight Fred Fulton for the heavy-weight championship of the world on the 4th of July. The details are not yet settled.

## THE EMPIRE'S FUTURE.

London, March 15.  
Mr. Walter Long, speaking at an entertainment given to Overseas officers in London, paid a very handsome tribute to the men from the Dominions, who had come thousands of miles to defend the Empire which they and their fathers helped to build up. Apart from destroying the power of our enemies, another task was the construction of the British Empire, which only awakened to knowledge of her strength and possibilities when the war began. The Empire had a tremendous opportunity. We had learned that distances in reality were nothing and we had resolved for closer union after the war, on surer foundations, and for a far greater Empire in the future than in the past.

## GERMAN OUTRAGE SUSPECTED.

London, March 15.  
The British Government has drawn the attention of the Argentine Government to the fact that horses and mules from the Argentine are reaching Great Britain suffering from glanders, which is practically a non-existent disease in the Argentine. The outbreak is believed to be due to Germans inoculating the animals with bacilli.

## THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

Halifax, March 15.  
The charges of manslaughter against Pilot Mackay of the s.s. Montplaine (sailed on 4th inst.) have been dismissed, there being insufficient evidence of criminal culpability.

## ENTERTAINMENTS: HERE.

## CITY HALL.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM.

TUESDAY, March 19th, 1918, 9.15 p.m. SHARP.

## A GRAND CONCERT

WILL BE GIVEN BY THE TWO  
FAMOUS AND POPULAR ARTISTS.  
Professor PAPINI, (Violin Virtuoso).  
AND  
Mr. PAMIES (Cello Virtuoso).

KINDLY ASSISTED BY  
Professor DANENBERG (Pianist).  
Prices of Admission \$3.00

BOOKING AT ANDERSON'S.

## VICTORIA THEATRE.

MARCH, 19th, 20th & 21st, 1918.

9.15 p.m. Performance.

## M. HENRI KRAUSS

## "VICTIMS OF FATE."

An Absorbing Drama in 3 parts,  
giving plenty of scope  
to this fine Actor.

AMERICAN GAZETTE & COMEDIES.

Booking at ANDERSON'S.

## NOTICES.

THE GREEN ISLAND  
CEMENT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

## NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TWENTY-NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 23rd day of March, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1917, and declaring a Dividend.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, the 14th March, 1918, until SATURDAY, the 23rd March, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.  
Hongkong, 5th March, 1918.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.  
General Managers.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.  
Hongkong, 5th March, 1918.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

## NOTICE.

THE FORTIETH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Offices of the General Agents, Pedder's Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 27th March, both days inclusive.  
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.  
General Agents.  
Hongkong, 6th March, 1918.

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of shareholders will be held at the Offices of the General Manager at NOON on WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant to receive a Statement of the Company's Accounts to 31st December, 1917, and the report of the General Managers.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to 27th instant both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, 7th March, 1918.

KOWLOON BOWLING GREEN CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Club House on THURSDAY 21st March, 1918, at 5.45 P.M.

Printed and Published for the Proprietors, by George William Olds Barnett at 11, Lee House Street, in the City of Victoria, Hong Kong.

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